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Precedence: P DTG: 191412Z Jul 05

From: DOD, ARMY, ORGANIZATIONS, ARMY OPERATIONS CENTER, AOC CAT OPSWATCH

G3 DAMO AOC(MC)

Subject: PREVENTION OF HEAT INJURIES

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THIS ALARACT MESSAGE IS RELEASED ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL.

REF/A/DOC/AR 40-5/15 OCT 90/ AMPN/PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

REF/B/DOC/DASG-PPM-NC/08 APR 05/

AMPN/DASG-POPM-NC MEMO, SUBJ: HEAT INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM/ REF/C/DOC/DASG-PPM-NC/14 APR 04/

AMPN/DASG-POPM-NC MEMO, SUBJ: HEAT INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM, 2004-2005/REF/D/DOC/TB MED 507/AFPAM 48-152(I)/ HEAT STRESS CONTROL AND HEAT CASUALTY MANAGEMENT, PREVENTION, TRAINING AND CONTROL OF HEAT INJURY/07 MAR 03/

- 1. WE CONTINUE TO LEARN THE SAME LESSON ABOUT HEAT INJURIES. NOT FOLLOWING HEAT INJURY PREVENTION GUIDANCE HAS RECENTLY COST ONE SOLDIER HIS LIFE. 1,512 HEAT INJURIES AND 20 HEAT-RELATED DEATHS WERE REPORTED BETWEEN 2000 2004.
- 2. PREVENTING HEAT INJURIES AND HEAT-RELATED DEATHS IS A COMMANDER'S RESPONSIBILITY. COMMANDERS AND NCOS MUST ENSURE SOLDIERS FOLLOW THESE PREVENTIVE MEASURES.
- 2.A. DRINK LIQUIDS TO STAY HYDRATED, UP TO 1.5 QUARTS PER HOUR OR 12 QUARTS PER DAY, DEPENDING ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS.
- 2.B. DO NOT ALLOW SOLDIERS OR TRAINEES TO EMPTY CANTEENS TO LIGHTEN LOAD.
- 2.C. ENSURE SOLDIERS ARE WELL HYDRATED BEFORE TRAINING. ASK ABOUT URINE COLOR; IF URINE IS CLEAR THEN THEY ARE WELL HYDRATED.
- 2.D. ENSURE ALL MEALS ARE EATEN DURING THE MEAL BREAK. DO NOT USE SALT TABLETS. MEALS HAVE ADEQUATE SALT ADDED.
- 2.E. ENSURE ADEQUATE TIME TO EAT MEALS AND DRINK WATER.
- 2.F. ENFORCE BATTLE BUDDY CHECKS BY ENSURING THAT BATTLE BUDDIES ARE AWARE OF EACH OTHER'S EATING, DRINKING AND FREQUENCY OF URINATION.
- 3. COMMANDERS AND NCOS MUST ENSURE THAT IDENTIFIED CONTROLS ARE IN PLACE.
- 3.A. UPDATE WET BULB GLOBE TEMPERATURE (WBGT) HOURLY WHEN AMBIENT TEMPERATURE IS > 75 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.
- 3.B. ENSURE ADHERENCE TO WORK/REST CYCLE IN HIGH HEAT CATEGORIES. REST IN SHADE.
- 3.C. FOR TASKS REQUIRING CONTINUOUS EFFORT, ADHERE TO GUIDELINES AND ALLOW EXTENDED REST AFTERWARDS.
- 3.D. PLAN PLACEMENT OF LEADERS TO OBSERVE AND REACT TO HEAT INJURIES.
- 4. DETAILED GUIDANCE IS ON THE U.S. ARMY CENTER FOR HEALTH PROMOTION AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE WEBSITE: HTTP://CHPPM-WWW.APGEA.ARMY.MIL/HEAT/.
- 5. WHEN COMMANDERS AND NCOS PLACE EMPHASIS ON PREVENTION OF HEAT INJURIES, THEY WILL EFFECTIVELY LIMIT OR ELIMINATE HEAT INJURIES.
- 6. HQDA POCS FOR THIS MESSAGE ARE LTC JOHN ROWE 703-681-0022,DSN 761-0022, OR EMAIL: JOHN.ROWE@OTSG.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL AND MR. PAUL REPACI 703-681-2949, DSN 761-2949, OR EMAIL: PAUL.REPACI@OTSG.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.